



ALASKA MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP CENTER

The Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership Center is a statewide technical assistance, training, and workforce development provider with the purpose of advancing small and medium-sized manufacturers across Alaska. The Center is colocated with the UAA Business Enterprise Institute (BEI) and draws significant support from collaborative programs within BEI.

A representative of the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST MEP), the Alaska Manufacturing Extension Partnership Center operates under the US Department of Commerce to promote innovation and industrial competitiveness. The Center assists manufacturing businesses by providing them with a range of innovative strategies and solutions. We collaborate with agencies across the state to help Alaska manufacturers improve their competitiveness, performance, and profitability in today's increasingly demanding global economy.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

MEP Center impacts are based on clients surveyed in FY2020

**\$1,000**

Total Increased/Retained Sales

**2**

Total Increased/Retained Jobs

**\$362K**

New Client Investments

**\$7,500**

Cost Savings

CONTACT US

1901 Bragaw Street, Suite 199
Anchorage, AK 99508

(907) 786-0412



alaska-mep.com



avshanks01@alaska.edu



SUPPLY CHAIN SUCCESS HELPS COMPANY PIVOT TO PPE MANUFACTURING

ABOUT ALPINE FIT LLC. Alaska Fit is a sewn product manufacturer in Anchorage, Alaska, sourcing and producing in the U.S.A. Their products are designed and field tested in Alaska for the outdoor enthusiast market with fits for different body proportions and technical fabrics.

THE CHALLENGE. Alpine Fit needed help pivoting to make surgical masks for healthcare workers. They had the knowledge and skills to tackle the sewing of the masks but lacked the supply of surgical wrap and an agreed-upon design.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. The Alaska MEP, part of the MEP National Network™, was able to convene a meeting of healthcare providers and locate a continuous, albeit small, supply of surgical wrap that could be provided to Alpine Fit as a critical input for surgical masks.

The Alaska MEP also connected Alpine Fit to the healthcare industry to achieve consensus on one mask design that all manufacturers would use. They were able to gain consensus and deliver that mask design to all of the manufacturers.

With the design and surgical wrap in hand, Alpine Fit began manufacturing surgical masks for the healthcare industry!

"The Alaska MEP helped me to acquire the necessary surgical wrap to produce surgical masks that could be used by the healthcare industry. "

-Jennifer Loofbourrow, CEO/Owner



RESULTS



Alpine Fit was able to break into the healthcare market



Alpine Fit was able to create a new product



Alpine Fit was able to keep their doors open during the COVID-19 pandemic

